

**MINUTES
THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
JUNE 17, 2002**

ATTENDANCE: David Brown, Chairman; Stephen Feinstein; Paul Coggin.

OTHERS: Attorney Lawrence Dennin, District Counsel; John Mola, District Treasurer; Ana Aguilar; Laurel Lindstrom.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the Chairman.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE COMMISSION
MEETING OF MAY 20, 2002**

The following corrections were made: On page 1, under “Staff”, Mr. Scofield’s title was corrected to “District Clerk & Office Manager”. On page 3, the motion on the bottom of the page was rewritten to read: “Mr. Feinstein moved to pay Mr. Scofield the General Manager’s base salary plus applicable overtime for the interim period of time it takes to hire a new general manager”.

**** MR. BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED.**
**** MR. FEINSTEIN SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**EAST AVENUE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION AND ADVOCATES FOR CALM
TRAFFIC – LAUREL LINDSTROM**

Ms. Lindstrom addressed the Commissioners on the various initiatives being undertaken by Advocates for Calm Traffic, noting that they had lobbied the City and managed to get \$100,000 in both last year’s budget and this year’s budget. As a result, certain streets in East Norwalk will get speed bumps this year. She also started the East Avenue Neighborhood Association six months ago. They meet monthly, with the next meeting scheduled to take place on June 23rd. They share a web site – Calmtraffic.org. There are street representatives to the East Avenue Neighborhood Association from 13 streets, as well as from East Avenue. They helped coordinate

the May 30th East Norwalk Traffic Summit, which was well attended.

Ms. Lindstrom distributed various newsletters and letters, which are attached to the minutes.

FIRST MEETING DATE OF 51 VAN ZANT STREET STEERING COMMITTEE

Mr. Mola said that the first meeting would take place on June 27th at 7 p.m. at the library. All of the members have been notified except Dr. Pinto, who will be notified.

Attorney Dennin said this is an FOI committee. There must be minutes, recorded votes and meetings must be noticed and open to the public.

UPDATE FROM JOHN MOLA REGARDING TRAFFIC ISLANDS AND MINI-PARKS COMMITTEE

Mr. Mola said there have been no meetings thus far although there have been communications with members. The Clock Island has been cleaned up.

Mr. Feinstein asked why they had spent \$400 to move the sign from the front of the island to the back. Mr. Mola said he did not have the breakdown, but it was done so that the sign could be seen.

Mr. Mola said there will be a new Christmas Tree in Constitution Park in the fall. An arrangement was made to have the stump removed in Ludlow Park, and he was surprised that had not yet been done. Mr. Lyons will get someone to do that. Everything else will be discussed at their first meeting. It is more important to get the Library Steering Committee moving, and when that is done, he will call a meeting of this committee.

Mr. Mola said they might get a new sidewalk around the Cemetery because of the work being done on East Avenue.

The Chairman asked why four bushes had been put in front of the sign at the cemetery island. Mr. Mola said he did not know why this had been done. He will speak with Oman Bros.

Mr. Feinstein asked who was on the committee, and Mr. Mola responded that the members are Steve Orris, Karl Deering, Laurel Lindstrom, Paul Coggin and himself. Mr. Feinstein asked if this committee also has to adhere to FOI regulations and Attorney Dennin said he would look into that question. The issue may be whether or not a committee is created by the commission. Mr. Feinstein said he signed two checks for Oman Bros. a few weeks ago that totaled approximately \$4,000, and he asked if that had been drawn down from the \$20,000 budgeted. Mr. Mola said that

money came from the current fiscal year; the \$20,000 is still intact in next year's budget. Mr. Feinstein said that the committee had no authority to use the current year's money to do any work. The Chairman said Mr. Mola had merely been directing Oman Bros. within the money budgeted. Mr. Mola said the work done was within the proposal that Oman Bros. had submitted. He will check with Mr. Scofield as to the exact work that was done and the cost of that work.

Mr. Feinstein asked if the committee was spending money it was not budgeted to use and discussion took place. Mr. Coggin said Mr. Mola was authorized to manage the annual budgeted amount, which is \$20,000 for 2002-03. Mr. Mola said that the money would be spent wisely and where needed in order to beautify the area.

Mr. Coggin asked if a sign should be installed over the Stroffolino Bridge to indicate that people are entering East Norwalk. The Chairman asked if this fell under the definition of an update. The committee will look into this, as well as into who would provide services to stain signs and decks.

APPROVAL FOR TREE REMOVAL AND BUSH PRUNING AT DISTRICT PROPERTY AT 215 EAST AVENUE

Mr. Coggin said this relates to the house in front of the substation. There is a large maple tree that he feels needs to be taken down. The Chairman said Ms. Lindstrom is a member of the Tree Alliance, and approval needs to be obtained before trees are cut down. Mr. Feinstein said that the City has adopted a new tree ordinance where permission has to be obtained from the City before a tree is trimmed or pruned. Mr. Mola will look into this issue.

DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF DRAFT BANK COLLATERALIZATION AGREEMENT

Mr. Dennin said that the agreement has been updated to conform with current statutes. However, on page 2, 3rd paragraph, it should say "by letter to the District Clerk with copies to the Commission Chairman and District Treasurer" instead of "Third Taxing District".

**** MR. COGGIN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE BANK COLLATERALIZATION AGREEMENT WITH THE CHANGES ATTORNEY DENNIN MADE TO THE STATUTES AND THE ADDITION OF THE LANGUAGE IN PAGE 2 OF THE LETTER, PARAGRAPH 3.**

**** MR. BROWN SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF SHORT TERM ACTION PLAN RECOMMENDED BY JOE CRISTINO

The Chairman said he had not properly informed Mr. Coggin of what had happened at the meeting with Mr. Goldstein. During a special meeting on May 21st, which Mr. Coggin did not attend, he and Mr. Feinstein, recognizing the need and the spirit in which this had to be done, approved \$35,000 in total to start implementing whatever had to be done to solve the two problems at Rowan Street. Mr. Feinstein said that the special meeting had begun on May 20th and was continued to the next night. The actions will be taken on East Avenue but will affect Rowan Street. They may or may not use outside labor.

Discussion took place on Mr. Cristino's recommendations. Mr. Coggin said he would volunteer to obtain another opinion on the work needed.

**** MR. FEINSTEIN MOVED TO TABLE.**
**** MR. COGGIN SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

UPDATE REGARDING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SITUATION AT VANDERBILT AND COMPANY, AND REMEDIAL ACTIONS REQUIRED, IF ANY

Mr. Dennin said in addition to the transformers, owned by the District, they have some very outdated circuit breakers, and it was suggested to Vanderbilt that they might want to upgrade, at their expense. Attorney Dennin said they seemed receptive to this suggestion. In addition, they have three meters plus one that no one knew was there. Mr. Coggin said it might also be a good idea to have another engineer look at this and the Chairman agreed.

**** MR. FEINSTEIN MOVED TO TABLE.**
**** MR. COGGIN SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

POLICY REGARDING COMMISSION/EMPLOYEE ATTENDANCE AT OUT OF STATE MEETINGS

The Chairman said he had been unaware that Mr. Feinstein had attended the Dallas meeting. He would like the public to know of Commission attendance at out of state meetings and he would like it to be voted on, since attendance is paid through District funds. This should be a policy. Mr. Coggin agreed.

Mr. Feinstein said he intends to attend the NEPPA meeting on August 18-21 in New Hampshire and noted he had informed the Commissioners of his intent to attend the Dallas meeting.

Mr. Coggin said a policy should be drafted on to be voted on at the next meeting. In the meantime, attendance at the New Hampshire meeting will be grandfathered into the existing policy.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. FEINSTEIN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MR. COGGIN SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Telesco
Telesco Secretarial Services